

CIA's Mail Trick Adds Up to Suit

Providence, R.I., July 22 (UPI) — The American Civil Liberties Union today sued 30 present and former federal government officials for allegedly conspiring to open the personal mail of a mathematics professor at the University of Rhode Island.

The suit said that the mail of Prof. Rodney Driver included correspondence with colleagues in other countries, including the Soviet Union.

File Class Action Suit

In the class action suit filed in U.S. District Court, the organization sought \$20,000 in damages for each person whose mail was opened by the CIA.

The suit also sought an order to have the CIA, the FBI and the Postal service produce for destruction any files, records,

computer tapes and other information gathered from opening the letters.

Michael Dollinger, the executive director of the Rhode Island ACLU, said that the total amount being sought cannot be determined. "If we knew how many letters the CIA opened, then we would know," he said.

Defendants included former

CIA director Richard Helms and William F. Raborn Jr.; Acting Defense Secretary James Schlesinger; FBI director Clarence M. Kelley and former FBI director Louis Patrick Gray 3d; former Attorney General John Mitchell; McGeorge Bundy, former assistant to the president for national security affairs; and top-level Post Office officials.